

MEMO

TO: Prevention Partnership Providers and
Local Public Health Units

FROM: Molly Sander
Immunization Surveillance Coordinator

RE: Availability of MMRV (Proquad®)

DATE: January 25, 2006

Measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella (MMRV) vaccine is now available for order from the North Dakota Immunization Program. MMRV is approved for use in children ages 12 months to 12 years. **The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) does not recommend routine administration of a second dose of varicella vaccine, therefore MMRV must only be used when both MMR and varicella vaccines are indicated (i.e. 12-15 months of age).**

MMRV must be stored in the freezer at $\leq 5^{\circ}\text{F}$ (-15°C). MMRV will be sent to providers directly from Merck (the same method as varicella vaccine).

NDDoH Immunization Program will be supplying MMRV for administration to all North Dakota children. Before ordering MMRV, providers should administer all inventories of single antigen MMR and varicella vaccines in order to prevent wastage. Providers, however, need to have a small supply of varicella vaccine on hand for children who are up-to-date on MMR, but still need varicella vaccine. Providers will also need a supply of MMR vaccine in order to administer the second dose of MMR at 4-6 years of age.

Both varicella and MMR Vaccine Information Statements (VISs) must be provided to patients who receive MMRV.

Please contact the NDDoH Immunization Program with any questions or concerns at 701.328.3386 or toll-free at 800.472.2180.